

OPEN MEETING ITEM ORIGINAL



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BRIAN C. MCNEIL Executive Secretary

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

2003 NOV 17 A 11: 17

DATE:

MARC SPITZER - Chairman

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL JEFF HATCH-MILLER MIKE GLEASON

KRISTIN K. MAYES

NOVEMBER 17, 2003

AZ CORP COMMISSION

DOCUMENT CONTRAHIZONA Corporation Commission

DOCKET NO:

T-04172A-03-0153

DOCKETED

TO ALL PARTIES:

NOV 1 7 2003

DOCKETED BY

Enclosed please find the recommendation of Administrative Law Judge Amanda Pope.

The recommendation has been filed in the form of an Order on:

TEL LOGIC dba QUALITY TELEPHONE (CC&N/RESELLER)

Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-3-110(B), you may file exceptions to the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge by filing an original and ten (10) copies of the exceptions with the Commission's Docket Control at the address listed below by **4:00 p.m.** on or before:

NOVEMBER 26, 2003

The enclosed is <u>NOT</u> an order of the Commission, but a recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge to the Commissioners. Consideration of this matter has <u>tentatively</u> been scheduled for the Commission's Working Session and Open Meeting to be held on:

DECEMBER 2, 2003 and DECEMBER 3, 2003

For more information, you may contact Docket Control at (602)542-3477 or the Hearing Division at (602)542-4250.

BRIAN C. MCNEIL

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

1 2	BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION		
3	COMMISSIONERS		
4	MARC SPITZER, Chairman		
5	WILLIAM A. MUNDELL JEFF HATCH-MILLER		
6	MIKE GLEASON KRISTIN K. MAYES		
7	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DOCKET NO. T-04172A-03-0153 TEL LOGIC dba QUALITY TELEPHONE FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND		
9	NECESSITY TO PROVIDE RESOLD LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES AND FOR		
10	DETERMINATION THAT SERVICES OF THE APPLICANT ARE COMPETITIVE. ORDER		
11			
12	Open Meeting December 2 and 3, 2003		
13	Phoenix, Arizona		
14	BY THE COMMISSION:		
15	Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the		
16	Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") finds, concludes, and orders that:		
17	FINDINGS OF FACT		
18	1. On March 12, 2003, Tel Logic dba Quality Telephone ("Applicant" or "Quality") filed		
19	with the Commission an application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("Certificate") to		
20	provide competitive resold local exchange telecommunications services within the State of Arizona.		
21	2. Applicant is a switchless reseller that purchases telecommunications services from a		
22	variety of carriers for resale to its customers.		
23	3. In Decision No. 58926 (December 22, 1994), the Commission found that resold		
24	telecommunications providers ("resellers") are public service corporations subject to the jurisdiction		
25	of the Commission.		
26	4. Quality has authority to transact business in the State of Arizona.		
27	5. On August 13, 2003, the Commission's Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") filed a Staff		
28	Report recommending approval of the application, subject to certain conditions.		

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- 6. On November 12, 2003, Quality filed an Affidavit of Publication verifying that it had published notice of its application that complies with the Commission's notice requirements.
- 7. In the Staff Report, Staff stated that Quality provided unaudited financial statements for the five months ending December 31, 2002, which list assets of \$197,909, equity of \$147,109, and a net loss of \$257.
- 8. In the Staff Report, Staff stated that based on information obtained from the Applicant, it has determined that Applicant's fair value rate base ("FVRB") is zero. Staff stated Applicant's FVRB is too small to be useful in setting rates. Staff further stated that in general, rates for competitive services are not set according to rate of return regulation, but are heavily influenced by the market. Staff recommended that the Commission not set rates for Applicant based on the fair value of its rate base.
- 9. Staff believes that Quality has no market power and that the reasonableness of its rates will be evaluated in a market with numerous competitors. In light of the competitive market in which the Applicant will be providing its services, Staff believes that the rates in Applicant's proposed tariffs for its competitive services will be just and reasonable, and recommends that the Commission approve them.
 - 10. Staff recommended approval of Quality's application subject to the following:
 - (a) The Applicant should be ordered to comply with all Commission rules, orders, and other requirements relevant to the provision of intrastate telecommunications service;
 - (b) The Applicant should be ordered to maintain its accounts and records as required by the Commission;
 - (c) The Applicant should be ordered to file with the Commission all financial and other reports that the Commission may require, and in a form and at such times as the Commission may designate;
 - (d) The Applicant should be ordered to maintain on file with the Commission all current tariffs and rates, and any service standards that the Commission may require;
 - (e) The Applicant should be ordered to comply with the Commission's rules and modify its tariffs to conform to these rules if it is determined that there is a conflict between the Applicant's tariffs and the Commission's rules;

- (f) The Applicant should be ordered to cooperate with Commission investigations of customer complaints;
- (g) The Applicant should be ordered to participate in and contribute to a universal service fund, as required by the Commission;
- (h) The Applicant should be ordered to notify the Commission immediately upon changes to the Applicant's address or telephone number;
- (i) The Applicant's local exchange service offerings should be classified as competitive pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1108;
- (j) The Applicant's maximum rates should be the maximum rates proposed by the Applicant in its proposed tariffs. The minimum rates for the Applicant's competitive services should be the Applicant's total service long run incremental costs of providing those services as set forth in A.A.C. R14-2-1109;
- (k) In the event that the Applicant states only one rate in its proposed tariff for a competitive service, the rate stated should be the effective (actual) price to be charged for the service as well as the service's maximum rate;
- 11. Staff further recommended that Quality's resold local exchange Certificates should be conditioned upon the Applicant filing conforming tariffs for each Certificate in accordance with this Decision within 365 days from the date of an Order in this matter, or 30 days prior to providing service, whichever comes first, and in accordance with the Decision.
- 12. Monthly service charges are paid in advance by Quality's local exchange service customers.
- 13. Staff recommended that Quality's resold local exchange Certificate should be conditioned upon the Applicant procuring a performance bond as described in Findings of Fact No. 14 below, and filing proof of that performance bond within 365 days from the date of an Order in this matter, or 30 days prior to providing service, whichever comes first, and in accordance with the Decision, and the performance bond should remain in effect until further Order of the Commission.
- 14. Staff recommended that Quality be required to procure a performance bond in the initial amount \$25,000, with the minimum bond amount of \$25,000 to be increased if at any time it would be insufficient to cover all advances, deposits, or prepayments collected from its customers, in the following manner: The bond amount should be increased in increments of \$12,500, with such

increases to occur whenever the total amount of the advances, deposits, and prepayments reaches a level within \$2,500 under the actual bond amount.

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- 15. Staff further recommended that Quality's resold local exchange Certificate should be conditioned upon the following requirements: that if Quality wishes to discontinue service, it must file an application with the Commission pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1107; that it must notify each of its customers and the Commission 60 days prior to filing such an application to discontinue service; and that if Applicant fails to make such notification 60 days prior to filing an application under A.A.C. R14-2-1107, then it will forfeit its performance bond.
- 16. Staff recommended that if the Applicant fails to meet the timeframes outlined in Findings of Fact. Nos. 11, 13 or 15 above, then Applicant's resold local exchange Certificate should become null and void without further Order of the Commission, and that no time extensions for compliance should be granted.
 - 17. The rates proposed by these filings are for competitive services.
 - 18. Staff's recommendations as set forth herein are reasonable.
 - 19. Quality's fair value rate base is zero.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Applicant is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-281 and 40-282.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Applicant and the subject matter of the application.
 - 3. Notice of the application was given in accordance with the law.
- 4. Applicant's provision of resold local exchange telecommunications services is in the public interest.
- 5. Applicant is a fit and proper entity to receive the Certificate as conditioned herein for providing competitive resold local exchange services in Arizona.
- 6. Staff's recommendations in Findings of Fact No. 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, and 16 should be adopted.
 - 7. Quality's fair value rate base is not useful in determining just and reasonable rates for

the competitive services it proposes to provide to Arizona customers. 1 Quality's rates, as they appear in its proposed tariffs, are just and reasonable and 2 8. 3 should be approved. 4 **ORDER** IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the application of Tel Logic dba Quality Telephone for a 5 Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for authority to provide competitive resold local exchange 6 services is hereby granted, conditioned upon its compliance with the conditions recommended by 7 Staff as set forth in Findings of Fact Nos. 11, 13 and 15 above. 8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if Tel Logic dba Quality Telephone fails to meet the 9 timeframes outlined in Findings of Fact. Nos. 11, 13 or 15 above, then the resold local exchange 10 Certificate of Convenience and Necessity conditionally granted herein shall become null and void 11 12 without further Order of the Commission. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if Tel Logic dba Quality Telephone fails to notify each of 13 its customers and the Commission at least 60 days prior to filing an application to discontinue service 14 pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1107, that in addition to voidance of its resold local exchange Certificate 15 of Convenience and Necessity, Tel Logic dba Quality Telephone performance bond shall be forfeited. 16 17 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Staff's recommendations set forth in Findings of Fact Nos. 18 10 and 14 above are hereby adopted. 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Tel Logic dba Quality Telephone shall comply with the		
2	adopted Staff recommendations as set forth in Findings of Fact Nos. 10 and 14 above.		
3	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.		
4	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION.		
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7	CHAIRMAN	COMMISSIONER	COMMISSIONER
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9			
10	COMMISSIONER	COMMISSIONER	
11		IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIAN C.	McNEIL, Executive
12		Secretary of the Arizona Corporation hereunto set my hand and caused the	Commission, have official seal of the
13		Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in this day of, 2003.	the City of Phoenix,
14			
15		BRIAN C. McNEIL	
16		EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	
17	DISSENT		
18	DISSENT		
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DECISION NO.

1	SERVICE LIST FOR:	TEL LOGIC dba QUALITY TELEPHONE
2	DOCKET NO.:	T-04172A-03-0153
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4	Frank McGovern Tel Logic	
5	301 N. Market Street, #400 Dallas, TX 75202	
6		
7	Christopher K. Kempley Legal Division	
8	ARIZONA CORPORATION 1200 W. Washington Street	COMMISSION
9	Phoenix, Arizona 85007	
10	Ernest G. Johnson Utilities Division	
11	ARIZONA CORPORATION	COMMISSION
12	1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007	
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